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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/599,808	06/21/2000	Matthew J. Kotler	MS1-558US	8044

22801 7590 12/08/2003

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EXAMINER
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NGUYEN BA, PAUL H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 12/08/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Applicati n N .

09/599,808

Applicant(s)

KOTLER ET AL.

Examiner

Paul Nguyen-Ba

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 6/21/2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-80 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-80 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Notice to Applicant***

1. This action is in response to communications: original U.S. Patent application filed on June 21, 2000.
2. Claims 1-80 have been considered. Claims 1, 18, 26, 32, 38, 42, 44, 47, 48, 57, 63, 69, 74, 78 are independent claims.

### ***Oath/Declaration***

3. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

It does not include the notary's signature, or the notary's signature is in the wrong place.

It does not include the notary's seal and venue.

### ***Specification***

4. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

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A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 58, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, and 80 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Redpath, U.S. Patent No. 5,630,126.

#### **Independent Claim 1**

Redpath discloses a method comprising:

*presenting a free floating field in line with text in a document, the free floating field presenting content derived from a source (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with free floating field); and*

*upon modification of the source, automatically updating the content in the free floating field (see column 2, lines 39-40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → content updated upon user input).*

#### **Claim 3**

Redpath further discloses *the method of claim 1, wherein the source is text and the free floating field presents the text (see Figure 3; column 7, lines 24-26 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → non-numeric data).*

**Claim 4**

Redpath further discloses *the method of claim 1, wherein the source is a data value and the free floating field presents the data value* (see Figure 3; column 7, lines 24-26 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → numeric data).

**Claim 5**

Redpath further discloses *the method of claim 1, wherein the source resides separate from the free floating field and the free floating field presents content derived from referencing the source* (see generally column 1, lines 45+ → source can be linked by reference to a math part from a different location).

**Claim 6**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 1, further presenting a table containing multiple cells* (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”) *in which one cell is the source* (see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source); *and upon modification of the cell, automatically updating the content in the free floating field* (see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

**Claim 7**

Redpath further discloses *the method of claim 1, wherein the free floating field is a first free floating field, the method further comprising:*

*presenting a second free floating field, the second free floating field presenting content derived from referencing the first free floating field* (see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source); *and*

*upon modification of the source, automatically updating the contents in the first and second free floating fields (see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).*

**Claim 8**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 1, further comprising overlaying a formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a formula into the free floating field (see Figure 6; column 3, lines 9-14).*

**Claim 11**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 1, further comprising:*

*creating a cell structure in association with the free floating field, the cell structure holding one of a formula or data used in the free floating field (see column 3, lines 4-5 → each math cell may include an associated formula or data to be used in other math parts); and*

*creating a format structure in association with the free floating field, the format structure holding formatting information for the free floating field (see Figure 2; column 6, lines 11-14 → compare “configuring operation” with format structure).*

**Claim 12**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 1, further comprising formatting the free floating field independently of the text (see generally Figure 2 and Abstract; column 6, lines 11-14 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → can arrange position and size of math part or add and modify text or values in the math part independent of text).*

**Claim 14**

Redpath further discloses *the method of claim 1, further comprising:*

*determining, upon selection of the free floating field, a type of content in the free floating field; and interpreting user entry based upon the type of content in the free floating field (see column 6, lines 15-18 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → evaluates formula or assigns value based upon type of content).*

### **Claim 15**

Redpath further discloses *the method of claim 14, wherein the determining comprises:*

*evaluating whether the type of content is a formula or non-text data (see column 6, lines 15-18 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → evaluates whether formula or non-text data);*

*if the type of content is a formula or non-text data, interpreting the user's entry as applicable to spreadsheet functions (see column 6, lines 15-18 → evaluates formula or assigns value based upon type of content); and*

*if the type of content is not a formula or non-text data, interpreting the user entry as applicable to word processing functions (see generally column 6, lines 15-18 → if not formula or non-text data, calculation is not performed on text; e.g. name entry).*

### **Claim 16**

Redpath further discloses *the method of claim 14, wherein the determining comprises:*

*evaluating whether the type of content is a formula (see column 6, lines 15-18 → evaluates formula or assigns value based upon type of content);*

*if the type of content is a formula, highlighting all of the formula and allowing editing in a formula edit box (see column 3, lines 9-14 → compare "dialog box" with formula edit box; allows editing of formula for the accentuated math cell); and*

*if the type of content is not a formula, placing a cursor in the free floating field (see generally column 6, lines 52+ → dialog box allows entry of non-formula values within the math cell field, the characters or values delineating from a space identifying cursor position).*

**Claim 17**

Redpath further discloses *a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the method as recited in claim 1 (see column 5, lines 51-63).*

**Independent Claim 18**

Redpath discloses *a method comprising:*

*inserting a free floating field in text in a document (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with free floating field);*  
*enabling a user to enter a formula into the free floating field (see column 3, lines 9-14);*  
*and automatically recalculating the formula in the free floating field (see column 2, lines 39-40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → content recalculated using the formula upon user input).*

**Claim 19**

Redpath further discloses *the method of claim 18, wherein the enabling comprises overlaying a formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of the formula into the free floating field (see Figure 6; column 3, lines 9-14).*

**Claim 22**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 18, further comprising inserting a table that contains multiple cells, wherein the data value resides in one cell of the table so that upon*



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*modification of the data value in the cell, the formula in the free floating field is automatically recalculated (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”; see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source; see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).*

**Claim 23**

*Redpath discloses the method of claim 18, wherein the free floating field is a first free floating field and the formula is a first formula, the method further comprising:*

*inserting a second free floating field (see generally column 2, lines 64+);*

*enabling the user to enter a second formula into the second free floating field, the second formula referencing the first free floating field (column 3, lines 9-14 → enter formula into second math cell; column 3, lines 60-61 → math cells linked);*

*and upon modification of the data value, the first and second formulas in the first and second free floating fields are automatically recalculated (see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).*

**Claim 24**

*Redpath discloses the method of claim 18, further comprising:*

*creating a cell structure in association with the free floating field, the cell structure holding the formula field (see column 3, lines 4-5 → each math cell may include an associated formula or data to be used in other math parts); and*

*creating a format structure in association with the free floating field, the format structure holding formatting information for the free floating field (see Figure 2; column 6, lines 11-14 → compare “configuring operation” with format structure).*

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**Claim 25**

Redpath further discloses *a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the method as recited in claim 18* (see column 5, lines 51-63).

**Independent Claim 26**

Redpath discloses *a method comprising:*

*presenting a free floating field in line with text* (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with *free floating field*); *and*

*overlaying a formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a formula into the free floating field* (see Figure 6; column 3, lines 9-14).

**Claim 30**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 26, further comprising:*

*presenting at least one table* (see column 2, lines 66+ → multiple cells form a table);

*and enabling a user to reference a cell in the table to add a data value to the formula* (see generally column 1, lines 45+ → source can be linked by reference to a math part from a different cell; )

**Claim 31**

Redpath further discloses *a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the method as recited in claim 26* (see column 5, lines 51-63).

**Independent Claim 32**

Redpath discloses *a method comprising:*

*presenting a free floating field in line with text* (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with *free floating field*);

*presenting a table within the document, the table having a cell with contents* (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”); *and*

*enabling a user to reference the cell in the table when entering a formula in the free floating field* (see generally column 1, lines 45+ → source can be linked by reference to a math part from a different location).

### **Claim 33**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 32, further comprising, upon modification of the contents in the cell of the table, automatically recalculating the formula in the free floating field* (see column 2, lines 39-40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → content recalculated using the formula upon user input).

### **Claim 36**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 32, wherein the formula also references a value outside of the table* (see generally column 1, lines 45+ → value can be linked by reference to a math part from a location separate from the document).

### **Claim 37**

Redpath further discloses *a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the method as recited in claim 32* (see column 5, lines 51-63).

### **Independent Claim 38**

Redpath discloses *a method comprising:*

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*inserting one of a first free floating field or a spreadsheet table in text (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with free floating field);*

*in response to user selection of at least a portion of the text or data, automatically creating a second free floating field containing the portion of the text (see column 3, lines 1-3 and related discussion elsewhere in specification); and*

*creating a reference in the first free floating field or spreadsheet table to the second free floating field (see column 2, lines 38-40).*

**Claim 39**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 38, further comprising, upon confirmation, displaying the portion of the text in place of the first free floating field (see Figures 6 and 8; column 3, lines 9-14).*

**Claim 40**

Redpath discloses *the method of claim 38, further comprising, upon modification of the text in the second free floating field, automatically updating the first free floating field (see column 2, line 39-40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).*

**Claim 41**

Redpath further discloses *a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the method as recited in claim 38 (see column 5, lines 51-63).*

**Independent Claim 42**

Redpath discloses *a method comprising:*

*presenting free floating field in line with text in a document* (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with *free floating field*);

*creating a cell structure to hold one of data or a formula for the free floating field* (see column 3, lines 4-5 → each math cell may include an associated formula or data to be used in other math parts);

*creating a format structure to hold formatting information for the free floating field* (see Figure 2; column 6, lines 11-14 → compare “configuring operation” with *format structure*);

*receiving, into the free floating field, user entry of a reference to a source in the document* (see column 6, lines 15-18 and related discussion elsewhere in the specification);

*parsing the user input to update the cell structure and the format structure* (see column 6, lines 22-29 and related discussion elsewhere in the specification);

*in an event the user input causes changes in the cell structure or format structure, updating the cell structure or format structure to produce a new result* (see column 6, lines 15-18 and related discussion elsewhere in the specification); *and*

*presenting the free floating field with the new result* (see column 8, lines 26-40).

#### **Claim 43**

Redpath further discloses *a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, perform the method as recited in claim 42* (see column 5, lines 51-63).

#### **Independent Claim 47**

Redpath discloses *a method of presenting a free floating field in line with text document* (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with *free floating field*); *and*

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*number formatting the free floating field independent of the text (see column 2, lines 66-67 to column 3, lines 1-4).*

**Independent Claim 48**

Redpath discloses *a user interface comprising:*

*a text entry area that permits entry of individual lines of text (see column 2, lines 45-46);*

*and a free floating field residing inline within a line of text (see column 2, lines 45-48),*

*the free floating field presenting content derived from source data or referencing source data*

*such that upon modification of the source data, the free floating field automatically re-derives*

*the content and presents the re-derived content (see column 2, lines 39-40).*

**Claim 49**

Redpath further discloses *the user interface of claim 48, wherein the content of the free floating field is presented as text when not being edited (see Figure 8; column 3, lines 21+ → displays text in math cells).*

**Claim 51**

Redpath further discloses *the user interface of claim 48, wherein the free floating field contains a formula and the source is a data value (see column 3, lines 4-64).*

**Claim 52**

Redpath further discloses *the user interface of claim 48, wherein a formula edit box is overlaid on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a formula into the free floating field (see column 3, lines 9-14).*

**Claim 55**

Redpath further discloses *the user interface of claim 48, wherein the free floating field is a first free floating field and further comprising a second free floating field inline within text (see column 3, lines 60-61), the second free floating field presenting content derived from referencing the first free floating field (see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source).*

**Claim 56**

Redpath discloses *the user interface of claim 48, further comprising a table with multiple cells, the table having a particular cell that presents content derived from referencing the free floating field (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”; see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source; see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).*

**Independent Claim 57**

Redpath discloses *a user interface comprising:*

*at least one table residing within a document, the table having multiple cells (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”);*

*at least one free floating field inline with text in the document, the free floating field containing a formula that references a cell in the table (see generally column 1, lines 45+ → source can be linked by reference to a math part from a different location); and*

*the formula in the free floating field being automatically recalculated upon modification of the cell in the table (see column 2, lines 39-40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → content recalculated using the formula upon user input).*

**Claim 58**

Redpath discloses *the user interface of claim 57, wherein the free floating field is a first free floating field and further comprising a second free floating field containing a reference to the first free floating field* (see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source).

**Claim 61**

Redpath discloses *the user interface of claim 57, further comprising a formula edit box overlaid on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of the formula* (see Figure 6; column 3, lines 9-14).

**Claim 62**

Redpath discloses *the user interface of claim 57, further comprising multiple tables and multiple free floating fields, at least one of the tables and free floating fields containing a formula that references at least one other of the tables and free floating fields* (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”; see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source; see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

**Independent Claim 63**

Redpath discloses *an architecture comprising:*

*a user interface to present text and a free floating field inline with the text* (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with *free floating field*);

*a free floating field component to receive data or a formula entered into the free floating field* (see column 3, lines 9-11); *and*



*a spreadsheet functionality manager to manage spreadsheet functions for the free floating field* (see column 4, lines 4-15; column 6, lines 7-29 → compare “compound document computation integration system” with *spreadsheet functionality manager*).

**Claim 64**

Redpath discloses *the architecture of claim 63, wherein the user interface overlays a formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a formula* (see column 3, lines 9-14).

**Claim 65**

Redpath discloses *the architecture of claim 63, wherein the spreadsheet functionality manager comprises:*

*a cell structure to maintain the data or formula entered into the free floating to field; and a format table to maintain formatting information used in the free floating field* (see column 3, lines 4-5 → each math cell may include an associated formula or data to be used in other math parts; see Figure 2; column 6, lines 11-14 → compare “configuring operation” with *format structure*).

**Claim 66**

Redpath further discloses *the architecture of claim 63, wherein the free floating field receives a formula, and the spreadsheet functionality manager comprises:*

*a first memory structure to hold source data* (see column 5, line 9);

*a second memory structure to maintain the formula entered into the free floating field, the formula referencing the data in the first memory structure* (see column 5, line 9); and

*a recalculation engine to recalculate the formula in the second memory structure*

*following a change to the data in the first memory structure (see column 5, line 9).*

**Claim 67**

Redpath discloses *the architecture of claim 63, wherein the user interface presents at least one table within the document, and the spreadsheet functionality manager is configured to track references made between the free floating field and the table (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”; see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source).*

**Claim 68**

Redpath discloses *the architecture of claim 63, wherein the user interface presents at least one table within the document, and the spreadsheet functionality manager is configured to track references made between the free floating field and the table, the spreadsheet functionality manager being further configured to update any data s and formulas in the table and free floating fields that are affected by a change made to one of the table or the free floating field (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”; see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source; see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).*

**Independent Claim 69**

Redpath discloses *a computer comprising:*

*a memory (see column 5, line 9);*

*a processing unit coupled to the memory (column 5, line 9); and*

*an architecture stored in the memory and executable on the processing unit to construct and display a document having a free floating field inline with text, the free floating field supporting spreadsheet functionality (see column 5, lines 1+; Abstract).*

**Claim 70**

Redpath discloses *the computer of claim 69, wherein the free floating field contains a formula that references source data, and upon modification of the source data, the architecture automatically recalculates the formula in the free floating field (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”; see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source; see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).*

**Claim 71**

Redpath discloses *the computer of claim 69, wherein the architecture constructs multiple free floating fields within the document, at least one free floating field containing a reference to contents in another free floating field (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”; see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source).*

**Claim 72**

Redpath discloses *the computer of claim 69, wherein the architecture constructs a table within the document and the free floating field contains a reference to contents in the table contents (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells; see generally column 1, lines 45+ → source can be linked by reference to a math part from a different location).*

**Claim 73**

Redpath discloses *the computer of claim 69, wherein the architecture comprises:*  
*a user interface manager to receive user input into the free floating field (see Figure 6;*  
column 3, lines 9-14); *and*  
*a spreadsheet functionality manager to manage the spreadsheet functionality of the free*  
*floating field based on the user input received by the user interface manager (see column 6, lines*  
15-18 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → evaluates formula or assigns value  
based upon type of content).

**Independent Claim 74**

Redpath discloses *a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions*  
*that, when executed on one or more processors (see column 5, lines 6+), performs the following:*  
*display a free floating field in line with text in a document; create a reference, within the*  
*free floating field, to at least one source elsewhere in the document (see Figure 8; column 2,*  
lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with *free floating field*); *and*  
*upon modification of the source, automatically update the free floating field (see column*  
2, lines 39-40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → content updated upon user  
input).

**Claim 75**

Redpath discloses *the computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the source is text*  
*and the free floating field references the text (see Figure 3; column 7, lines 24-26 and related*  
discussion elsewhere in specification → non-numeric data).

**Claim 76**

Redpath discloses *the computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the source is a data value and the free floating field contains a formula that references the data value* (see Figure 3; column 7, lines 24-26 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → numeric data).

**Claim 77**

Redpath discloses *the computer readable medium of claim 74, wherein the free floating field is a first free floating field, and further comprising computer executable instructions to:*

*display a second free floating field; create a reference, within the second free floating field, to the first free floating field* (see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cell with the same name in the formulas of the other math cells functions as the source); *and*

*upon modification of the source, automatically update the first and second free floating fields* (see column 2, line 40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

**Independent Claim 78**

Redpath discloses *a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed on one or more processors, performs the following:*

*present a free floating field in line with text* (see Figure 8; column 2, lines 45-53 → compare “math parts” with *free floating field*);

*receive user-entered formula into the free floating field, the formula referencing at least one data value elsewhere in the document* (see column 3, lines 9-14); *and*

*upon modification of the data value, automatically recalculate the formula in the free floating field* (see column 2, lines 39-40 and related discussion elsewhere in specification → content recalculated using the formula upon user input).

**Claim 79**

Redpath discloses *the computer readable medium of claim 78, further comprising computer-executable instructions to overlay a formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of the formula into the free floating field* (see Figure 6; column 3, lines 9-14).

**Claim 80**

Redpath discloses *the computer readable medium of claim 78, further comprising computer-executable instructions to:*

*present a table cells* (see column 2, lines 38-40 → table consists of multiple “math cells”); *and*

*create a reference from the free floating field to a cell in the table* (see column 3, lines 60-61 → math cells with the same name in the formulas as other math cells functions are referenced to one another).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 9, 10, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 53, and 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Redpath, U.S. Patent No. 5,630,126, in view of Microsoft Visual Basic 5.0 Programmer's Guide, 1997, pgs. 578-579, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 ("Microsoft").

#### **Claim 9**

Redpath discloses an overlaying formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a formula into the free floating field, but does not specifically teach resizing the formula edit box as the user enters the formula.

However, Microsoft discloses the resizing of boxes or controls at run time for the purposes of user readability and to respect inherent document size restrictions (see Microsoft, pgs. 578, 579 → "Resizing Controls Dynamically")

Since Redpath and Microsoft are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Microsoft would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Redpath. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the formula edit box to allow for resizing for the purposes of user readability and to respect inherent document size restrictions.

#### **Claim 10**

Redpath discloses an overlaying formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a formula into the free floating field, but does not specifically teach extending the formula edit box horizontally and subsequently vertically as the user enters the formula.

However, Microsoft discloses the extending the formula edit box horizontally and subsequently vertically at run time for the purposes of user readability and to respect inherent

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document size restrictions (see Microsoft, pgs. 578, 579 → “Resizing Controls Dynamically”; compare “Height” and “Weight” with *horizontal* and *vertical*).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the formula edit box to allow for extending the formula edit box horizontally and subsequently vertically at run time for the purposes of user readability and to respect inherent document size restrictions.

#### **Claim 20**

Claim 20 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claim 9, and is rejected along the same rationale.

#### **Claim 21**

Claim 21 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claim 10, and is rejected along the same rationale.

#### **Claim 27**

Redpath discloses an overlaying formula edit box on the free floating field to facilitate user entry of a formula into the free floating field, but does not specifically teach initially defaulting the formula edit box to a size and shape of the free floating field.

However, Microsoft discloses initially defaulting the formula edit box to a size and shape of the free floating field for the purposes of user readability and to respect inherent document size restrictions (see Microsoft, pgs. 578, 579 → “Resizing Controls Dynamically”: AutoSize).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the formula edit box to initially default the formula edit box



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to a size and shape of the free floating field for the purposes of user readability and to respect inherent document size restrictions.

**Claim 28**

Claim 28 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claim 9, and is rejected along the same rationale.

**Claim 29**

Claim 29 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claim 10, and is rejected along the same rationale.

**Claim 53**

Claim 53 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claim 9, and is rejected along the same rationale.

**Claim 54**

Claim 54 incorporates substantially similar subject matter as claim 10, and is rejected along the same rationale.

9. Claims 13, 44, 45, 46, and 50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Redpath, U.S. Patent No. 5,630,126, in view of Curbow et al. ("Curbow"), U.S. Patent No. 5,669,005.

**Claim 13**

Redpath discloses a method integrating text and a free floating field within a common document, the free floating field supporting spreadsheet functionality, but does not specifically disclose modifying a format of the text and automatically applying the format to the free floating

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field.

However, Curbow discloses a method of modifying evaluating *an aspect of the document; and applying the control function across both the text and the content* parts for the purpose of simplicity resulting from the fact that the user only has to learn one way to perform a particular task, such as editing text (see Curbow, column 2, lines 66-67 to column 3, lines 1-9 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

Since Redpath and Curbow are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Curbow would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Redpath. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to further integrate text and free floating fields within a common document by applying modifications across both the text and the content parts for the purpose of simplicity stemming from the fact that the user only has to learn one way to perform a particular task, such as editing text.

#### **Independent Claim 44**

Redpath discloses a method integrating text and a free floating field within a common document, the free floating field supporting spreadsheet functionality, but does not specifically disclose enabling a user to select a control function to modify or evaluate an aspect of the document; and applying the control function across both the text and the free floating field.

However, Curbow discloses a method of *enabling a user to select a control function to modify or evaluate an aspect of the document; and applying the control function across both the text and the content* parts for the purpose of simplicity resulting from the fact that the user only

has to learn one way to perform a particular task, such as editing text (see Curbow, column 2, lines 66-67 to column 3, lines 1-9 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

Since Redpath and Curbow are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Curbow would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Redpath. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to add control functions to further integrate text and free floating fields within a common document to modify or evaluate an aspect of the document; and to apply the control function across both the text and the content parts for the purpose of simplicity stemming from the fact that the user only has to learn one way to perform a particular task, such as editing text.

#### **Claim 45**

Redpath discloses a method integrating text and a free floating field within a common document, the free floating field supporting spreadsheet functionality, but does not specifically disclose that the control function is selected from a group of functions including formatting, spell checking, grammar checking, find, find and replace, auto-correct, applying document themes, inserting lists, images, drawings, charts, hyperlinks, automatic detection of hyperlinks, and automatic detection of lists.

However, Curbow discloses that the control function can be selected from a group of functions commonly found in word processing, text editing, or spreadsheet programs for the purpose of simplicity resulting from the fact that the user only has to learn one way to perform a particular task, such as editing text (see column 5, lines 44-46; column 17, lines 60-65 and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the selection of control functions from a group of familiar functions commonly found in word processing, text editing, or spreadsheet programs for the purpose of simplicity resulting from the fact that the user only has to learn one way to perform a particular task, such as editing text.

#### **Claim 46**

Redpath does not specifically disclose that the control function is any text feature that can be applied to the text and the applying comprises applying that text feature to the free floating field. However, Curbow discloses that the *control function is any text feature that can be applied to the text and the applying comprises applying that text feature to the free floating field* (see column 3, lines 2-9; column 14, lines 25+ and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to apply any text feature applied to the text to the free floating field as well, for the purpose of simplicity resulting from the fact that the user only has to learn one way to perform a particular task, such as editing text.

#### **Claim 50**

Redpath discloses user interface wherein a free floating field resides inline within a line of text, but does not specifically disclose a change in appearance when selecting the free floating field for editing.

However, Curbow discloses a user interface wherein selected icons, documents, and boxes become highlighted for the purpose of indicating to the user which specific object within

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the user interface the user is currently operating (see column 12, lines 7-11; column 14, lines 13-14).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to change the appearance of the free floating field when selected for the purpose of indicating to the user which specific object within the user interface the user is currently operating.

10. Claims 2, 34, 35, 59, and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Redpath, U.S. Patent No. 5,630,126, in view of Burch et al. ("Burch"), U.S. Patent No. 6,088,708.

**Claim 2**

Redpath discloses a method of presenting a free floating field in line with text in a document, the free floating field presenting content derived from a source; and upon modification of the source, automatically updating the content in the free floating field. Redpath does not specifically disclose the method wherein the document is written in a markup language.

However, Burch discloses a method for creating an HTML table for the purpose of presenting table cell information via the Internet (see generally Abstract and related discussion elsewhere in the specification).

Since Redpath and Burch are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Burch would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Redpath. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was

made to write the document in a markup language for the purpose of presenting table cell information via the Internet.

**Claim 34**

Redpath discloses a method of presenting a free floating field in line with text; presenting a table within the document, the table having a cell with contents; and enabling a user to reference the cell in the table when entering a formula in the free floating field, but does not disclose nesting the free floating field within a cell in the table.

However, Burch discloses nested tables created within a single cell of a larger table in order to provide text adornments associated with objects on the page in an efficient manner (see Abstract and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

Since Redpath and Burch are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Burch would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Redpath. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to nest the free floating field within a cell in the table in order to provide text adornments associated with objects on the page in an efficient manner.

**Claim 35**

Redpath discloses a method of presenting a free floating field in line with text; presenting a table within the document, the table having a cell with contents; and enabling a user to reference the cell in the table when entering a formula in the free floating field, but does not disclose nesting the table within the free floating field.

However, Burch discloses the nesting of tables within a single cell or field in order to provide text adornments associated with objects on the page in an efficient manner (see Abstract and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

Since Redpath and Burch are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Burch would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Redpath. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to nest tables within a single cell or floating field in order to provide text adornments associated with objects on the page in an efficient manner.

#### **Claim 59**

Redpath discloses a user interface that presents a free floating field in line with text; presenting a table within the document, the table having a cell with contents; and enabling a user to reference the cell in the table when entering a formula in the free floating field, but does not disclose nesting the free floating field within a cell in the table.

However, Burch discloses nested tables created within a single cell of a larger table in order to provide text adornments associated with objects on the page in an efficient manner (see Abstract and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

Since Redpath and Burch are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Burch would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Redpath. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to nest the free floating field within a cell in the table in order to provide text adornments associated with objects on the page in an efficient manner.

**Claim 60**

Redpath discloses a user interface that presents a free floating field in line with text; presenting a table within the document, the table having a cell with contents; and enabling a user to reference the cell in the table when entering a formula in the free floating field, but does not disclose nesting the table within the free floating field.

However, Burch discloses the nesting of tables within a single cell or field in order to provide text adornments associated with objects on the page in an efficient manner (see Abstract and related discussion elsewhere in specification).

Since Redpath and Burch are both from the same field of endeavor, the purpose disclosed by Burch would have been recognized in the pertinent art of Redpath. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to nest tables within a single cell or floating field in order to provide text adornments associated with objects on the page in an efficient manner.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Nguyen-Ba whose telephone number is (703) 305-8776. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on (703) 305-9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-746-7239.

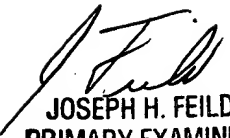
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.



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PNB

  
JOSEPH H. FEILD  
PRIMARY EXAMINER